ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

1   In a communications network formed by routers interconnected by

2 parallel component links, hello packets are exchanged between neighbor

3 routers at intervals to know each other in a learning process and update their

4 status. Each router groups the parallel component links into a bundled link

5 according to a link-up or link-down request and produces a first database

6 mapping the relationships between component links and bundled links. The

7 router performs routing calculations according to a link state routing

8 algorithm using the bundled link as a unit of transmission medium and

9 produces a second database mapping relationships between destination

10 addresses and bundled links. The first and second databases are downloaded

11 to interface units connected to the parallel component links. When a data

12 packet is received, the databases are used for translating the header of the

13 data packet for allowing it to be routed through a switch for transmission.